Accidents due to ignorance of traffic rules

†2910. SHRIMOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it Is a fact that the reasons for most of the accidents are over speeding, negligence, drunken driving and ignorance about the traffic rules,

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to check the same and also to create awareness among the people about the traffic rules; and

(c) the outcomes thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I. D. SWAMI): (a) Various reasons for road accidents in India are: lack of traffic discipline on the part of drivers and road users, phenomenal Increase in the number of motor vehicles with no corresponding increase in road capacity, mixed traffic conditions, over-speeding, over-loading, drunken driving, mechanical defects in vehicles, etc.

(b) The measures taken broadly are strengthening and widening of roads wherever necessary, improvement of road geometries, provision of road signages, construction of by-passess, providing training to the drivers particularly in the unorganized sector, publicity campaigns for awareness among the road users, various enforcement and regulatory measures like checking of overloading, checking of valid permit for driving transport vehicles and vehicles carrying dangerous and hazardous goods as well as personal vehicles and checking/certifying the periodical fitness of the transport/commercial vehicles. All these enforcement measures are being executed by the State Governments.

(c) As a result of various road safety measures taken by the Government the number of accidents per ten thousand vehicles has declined from 109.87 during the year 1996 to 80.89 during the year 2000.

Naxalism in various states

2911. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the States affected by naxalism;

(b) whether Government are aware of the fact that these naxalists have now links with foreign based terrorists and possessed the state-of-art weapons;

†Original notice of the quostion was received in Hindi.